

harangues of a demagogue must be
 frothy to be
 convincing, however solid may be the
 convictions
 that he cherishes in the
 background. And
 success being won by dramatic powers,
 not by
 sincerity, it is no matter for surprise
 that many
 demagogues have been simply actors,
 without any
 earnestness of purpose behind their
 volubility.
 But whether inspired by principle or by
 ambition,
 their success has been marvellous.
 Authority
 which will not listen to argument will
 give way
 before a mob, or a string of
 demonstrative out-
 rages; and in the end kings and
 aristocracies have
 conceded to the common people a
 voting power
 which outbalances their influence.
 and is in
 effect, transferring the government of
 the country
 from the hands of the conquerors to
 those of the
 conquered. Such a revolution would
 have thrown
 the community into a state of never-
 ceasing
 discord were it not confirmed by the
 impulse of
 deference¹ to the majority. This may
 offer to a
 democracy as strong a guarantee as
 may be
 obtained by a monarchy or aristocracy
 from the
 impulse of reverence. In many cases it
 has been
 intrinsically too weak to give this
 security, and
 republics have reverted to despotism
 — in fact if
 not in name.

But, it will be said, this is a sketch in
 mono-
 chrome which inadequately pictures
 the struggle
 for freedom; the triumphs by which
 liberty has

been won have been coloured by
many phases
of activity . their history is not
comprised in the

It is extraordinary, when one comes to think of it, that five persons should acquiesce in conduct of which they disapprove, because there are six persons who approve of it. Some peoples, those of India for instance, appear to lack this instinctive respect for number. But we may find traces of it in the earliest Germanic institutions which history reveals to us.